Aviation safety is your primary concern. Weather is an important aspect of that equation. NOAA's National Weather Service is here to assist you in planning for a safe flight. Aviation forecasts are produced on a national, regional, and local scale to provide pilots and those involved in aviation planning with the essential tools needed to make informed decisions.

National Weather Service Detroit/Pontiac Forecast Office is one of 122 local forecast offices that produces Terminal Aerodrome Forecasts (TAFs) containing specific take-off and landing conditions for approximately 625 airports across the United States. The TAF is a 24 or 30 hour aviation forecast, issued 4 times a day, valid for an area within 5 miles from the center of the runway complex. It provides detailed information for wind speed and direction, visibility, weather, cloud amount and cloud base height, any fluctuations/variations/changes to the above, and non-convective low level wind shear when needed. TAFs use standard METAR coding and are updated throughout the day as needed. The Detroit/Pontiac Forecast office issues TAFs for the Detroit Metropolitan Airport, Coleman A. Young Airport, Flint Bishop Airport, MBS Airport, and the Oakland County Airport.

Another valuable local resource is the Area Forecast Discussion (AFD). A segment of the AFD is dedicated to aviation concerns and provides additional supplemental information to TAF users.
Aviation Weather Center (AWC) – Forecast for the entire continental United States, including the Great Lakes. The AWC produces the following forecasts for in-flight conditions.

- **Area Forecasts** – Forecast of general weather conditions over an area the size of several states
- **Sigmets** – Advisories of weather that is potentially hazardous to aircraft
- **Airmets** – Advisories of significant weather phenomena but describe conditions at intensities lower than those which require a Sigmet.
- **Collaborative Convective Forecast Product** – Thunderstorm forecasts valid for 2, 4, and 6 hours into the future.
- **Icing forecasts**
- **Turbulence forecast**
- **Winds aloft**

Aviation Digital Data Service (ADDS) - http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/

From the AWC website you can access all of the forecasts in a user-friendly graphical format called the Aviation Digital Data Service or (ADDS). ADDS graphics are located at http://adds.aviationweather.gov/

Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) in Cleveland, OH. Serves southeast Michigan with the following forecasts and warnings:

- **Meteorological Impact Statement** – an unscheduled flow control and flight planning forecast
- **Center Weather Advisory** – An aviation warning for use by air crews to anticipate and avoid adverse weather conditions in the en route and terminal environments.

**Internet Resources**

- **NWS Detroit/Pontiac Office** - www.weather.gov/detroit
- **Aviation Weather Center** - www.aviationweather.gov
- **Center Weather Service Unit** - aviationweather.gov/products/cwsu
- **Aviation Digital Data Service (ADDS)** - adds.aviationweather.gov
- **National Weather Service** - www.weather.gov
- **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** - www.faa.gov
- **FAA Airport Status and Delays** - www.faa.gov/airports_airtraffic/
- **National Airspace System Status** - www.fly.faa.gov/ois/
- **The Front—Publication for Pilots** - aviationweather.gov/general/pubs/front
- **TAF Decoder** - aviationweather.gov/static/help/taf-decode.php
- **Canadian Forecasts** - www.weatheroffice.gc.ca/canada_e.html
- **NOAA Aircraft Operations Center** - www.aoc.noaa.gov